

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

1120 N STREET

P. O. BOX 942873

SACRAMENTO, CA 94273-0001

PHONE (916) 654-5266

FAX (916) 654-6608

TTY 711

*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

July 10, 2007

Dear Transportation Construction Community:

On May 1, 2006, I wrote to inform you that the California Department of Transportation (Department) would be shifting from a race-conscious program to a race-neutral program in the administration of our Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program. Since that time, the Department has undertaken a Disparity Study (Study) as required by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal ruling and guidelines promulgated by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The purpose of the Disparity Study is to identify the level of any discrimination that may exist in the conduct of the State's federally funded transportation program.

The Study has been received and its contents are being evaluated. While we complete our review, the Department will continue to operate the DBE Program under race-neutral measures. Additionally, the Department, on August 1, 2007, will submit and seek approval from FHWA on our annual overall DBE goal, methodology, and measures, as required by federal regulation. We expect this request to be based on the results of the Disparity Study.

If you have any questions about the release of the Study, please contact Robert Padilla, Disparity Study Project Manager, Office of Civil Rights, at (916) 324-0552.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Will Kempton" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

WILL KEMPTON

Director

c: Robert Padilla